

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1. A method of forming a spin valve sensor, comprising:  
2              forming a ferromagnetic free layer structure that has a magnetic moment;  
3              forming a ferromagnetic pinned layer structure having a magnetic moment;  
4              forming a nonmagnetic conductive spacer layer between the free layer structure and  
5              the pinned layer structure;  
6              forming an anti-ferromagnetic pinning layer coupled to the pinned layer structure for  
7              pinning the magnetic moment of the pinned layer structure;  
8              forming hard magnetic thin films on both sides of at least a portion of the free layer  
9              structure, the ferromagnetic pinned layer structure, the nonmagnetic conductive spacer layer  
10             and the anti-ferromagnetic pinning layer; and  
11              forming a hard bias seedlayer structure adjacent to at least a portion of the free layer  
12             structure, the ferromagnetic pinned layer structure, the nonmagnetic conductive spacer layer  
13             and the anti-ferromagnetic pinning layer, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer  
14             structure comprises forming at least a first layer comprising silicon and a second layer  
15             comprising chromium or chromium molybdenum.

1        2. The method of claim 1, wherein the forming the anti-ferromagnetic pinning  
2              layer further comprising forming a layer of platinum manganese.

1        3. The method of claim 1, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2              further comprises forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the silicon layer.

1           4.     The method of claim 3, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the  
2     silicon layer further comprises forming the tantalum and silicon layer with equal thickness.

1           5.     The method of claim 3, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the  
2     silicon layer further comprises forming the tantalum layer with a thickness half a thickness of  
3     the silicon layer.

1           6.     The method of claim 3, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum further  
2     comprises forming a tantalum-chromium alloy layer.

1           7.     The method of claim 6, wherein the forming the tantalum-chromium alloy  
2     layer further comprises forming the tantalum-chromium alloy layer and the silicon layer with  
3     equal thickness.

1           8.     The method of claim 6, wherein the forming the tantalum-chromium alloy  
2     layer further comprises forming the tantalum-chromium alloy layer with a thickness half a  
3     thickness of the silicon layer.

1           9.     The method of claim 1, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2     further comprises forming a layer of tantalum, silicon and chromium.

1           10.    The method of claim 1, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2     further comprises forming a layer of tantalum, silicon and chromium-molybendum.

1           11. A method of forming a spin valve sensor, comprising:  
2           forming a spin valve structure including a ferromagnetic free layer, a ferromagnetic  
3           pinned layer and an anti- ferromagnetic pinning layer;  
4           forming hard magnetic thin films adjacent at least a portion of the spin valve structure  
5           on both sides of the spin valve structure; and  
6           forming a hard bias seedlayer structure adjacent at least a portion of the spin valve  
7           structure, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure comprises forming at least a  
8           first layer comprising silicon and a second layer comprising chromium or chromium  
9           molybdenum.

1           12. The method of claim 10, wherein the pinning layer comprises platinum  
2           manganese.

1           13. The method of claim 10, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2           further comprises forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the silicon layer.

1           14. The method of claim 13, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the  
2           silicon layer further comprises forming the tantalum and silicon layer with equal thickness.

1           15. The method of claim 13, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum adjacent the  
2           silicon layer further comprises forming the tantalum layer with a thickness half a thickness of  
3           the silicon layer.

1           16. The method of claim 13, wherein the forming a layer of tantalum further  
2           comprises forming a tantalum-chromium alloy layer.

1           17. The method of claim 16, wherein the forming the tantalum-chromium alloy  
2       layer further comprises forming the tantalum-chromium alloy layer and the silicon layer with  
3       equal thickness.

1           18. The method of claim 16, wherein the forming the tantalum-chromium alloy  
2       layer further comprises forming the tantalum-chromium alloy layer with a thickness half a  
3       thickness of the silicon layer.

1           19. The method of claim 11, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2       further comprises forming a layer of tantalum, silicon and chromium.

1           20. The method of claim 11, wherein the forming the hard bias seedlayer structure  
2       further comprises forming a layer of tantalum, silicon and chromium-molybendum.

1           21. A method of forming a hard bias seedlayer structure, comprising:  
2       forming a first layer comprising silicon; and  
3       forming a second layer comprising chromium or chromium molybdenum.

1           22. The method of claim 21 further comprising forming a layer of tantalum  
2       adjacent the silicon layer.